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SECRET - Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer, USS FOX (CG-33)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington
Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: Command History; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) USS FOX (CG-33) Command History for 1978
(OPNAV Report 5750-1)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC


ROBERT J. STEELE

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USS FOX (CG-33) COMMAND HISTORY - 1978

JANUARY

- 1 January- Inport San Diego, California for Pre-deployment
3 January Leave and Upkeep and Preparation for Overseas
Movement (POM) periods.
- 4 January- Underway for sea trial in the Southern
California Operating areas. Conducted Deck
Landing Qualifications for pilots of Helicopter
Antisubmarine Light Squadron 35 (HSL-35)
- 5 January- Inport San Diego, California to continue
9 January POM period.
- 10 January- Underway for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii to commence
scheduled 6 month distant duty deployment to
the Western Pacific. Aircraft and crew of
HSL-35 Detachment 7 embarked for the duration
of the deployment.
- 11 January- Transit to Pearl Harbor conducted with USS
15 January BAINBRIDGE (CGN-25) and USS STEIN (FF-1065).
Commanding Officer, USS FOX assigned as
Transit Task Group Commander.
- 16 January- The Task Group arrived in the Hawaiian
operating areas. USS STEIN was detached to
proceed into port while USS FOX commenced
Force Operational Range Accuracy Checks
(FORACS) testing on the FORACS range south
of Oahu. Following these tests, FOX
and BAINBRIDGE proceeded to the Barking
Sands Missile Range Facility northwest of
Kauai for missile firings.
- 17 January- Conducted air control and anti-air gunnery
exercises. In spite of adverse weather
conditions which nearly precluded drone
launch, a successful surface-to-air
Standard missile firing was also achieved.

Classified by CTG 75.2 message 251930Z JUN 78
Review on 25 JUN 1998

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- 18 January- Inport Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for pre-deployment briefings.
19 January
- 20 January- Underway for Guam, MI. USS STEIN detached to proceed independently to Midway Island for fueling prior to rejoining the Task Group. USS BAINBRIDGE detached to proceed independently to Yokosuka, Japan.
- 21 January- Conducted independent transit towards Guam, conducting individual ship exercises enroute.
- 23 January- Crossed the International Date Line.
- 27 January- USS STEIN rejoined the Task Group.
- 28 January- Continued transit to Guam, conducting inter-
30 January and intra-ship training enroute.
- 28 January- FOX chopped to the operational command of COMSEVENTHFLT.
- 31 January- Arrived in the Guam operating areas for Surface Ship Radiated Noise Measurement testing on the Guam Acoustic Range Facility (GARF). Following the acoustic tests, FOX and STEIN proceeded into Apra Harbor, Guam.
- FEBRUARY
- 1 February- Inport Apra Harbor, Guam for fueling. Underway late in the day for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.
- 2 February- Detached USS STEIN to proceed independently into Subic Bay, RP.
- 3 February- Transited the Straits of San Bernadino.
- 4 February- Inport Subic Bay, RP for pre-Indian Ocean
14 February deployment preparations and upkeep.
- 5 February- RADM S. T. COUNTS, USN, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Force Seventh Fleet/Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group FIVE broke his flag in FOX.

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15 February- Underway for Fremantle, Australia to commence a scheduled three-month Indian Ocean deployment.

15 February- In transit with USS STEIN (FF-1065), USS
18 February OUELLET (FF-1077) and USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145). Commanding Officer, USS FOX functioned as Task Group Commander while RADM COUNTS was on emergency leave.

17 February- Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA. Davy Jones and his Royal Party embarked in FOX in preparation for crossing the equator.

18 February- Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA. Conducted exercise MERCUB I with units of the Singapore Navy and Air Force. USS STEIN detached from the Task Group. RADM Counts returned and re-assumed command of TG 75.1.

19 February- Continued southerly transit in company with
23 February USS OUELLET and USS HASSAYAMPA.

19 February- Conducted Crossing the Line ceremony as FOX crossed the equator at longitude 104-06E. Transited the Sunda Strait to enter the Indian Ocean.

21 February- Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.

23 February- Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.

24 February- Inport Fremantle, Australia for a seven-day
2 March port visit. During this time, FOX hosted over 25,000 Australian visitors, including 2000 Junior Recruits of the Royal Australian Navy.

24 February- Mr. Frank Ward, the American consul in Perth and CDR N. A. BOASE, Royal Australian Navy, Naval Officer Commanding Western Australia conducted official visits to FOX to call upon RADM COUNTS.

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MARCH

2 March- Underway for Port Louis, Mauritius. Conducted passing exercise (PASSEX) with units of the Royal Australian Air Force.

2 March- Conducted transit in company with USS
10 March OUELLET and USS HASSAYAMPA conducting inter- and intra-ship training enroute.

3 March- Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.

5 March- Night underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.

7 March- Night underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.

10 March- Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.

11 March- Entered Port Louis, Mauritius for two day port call, exchanging a 21 gun salute in honor of the 10th anniversary of Mauritian independence. Commanding Officer, USS FOX conducted an official call upon the Prime Minister of Mauritius.

12 March- Independence Day ceremonies in Port Louis attended by Commanding Officer, USS FOX.

13 March- RADM COUNTS shifted his flag from USS FOX to USS STEIN. FOX underway later in the afternoon for special operations (SPECOPS) with the Middle East Force.

13 March- Independent transit to Djibouti for fueling,
18 March conducting pre-operation briefings and training enroute.

19 March- Inport Djibouti for fueling. Mr. Walter Clarke, Charge D' Affaires, U. S. Embassy, Djibouti conducted an official visit to FOX. RADM Samuel H. PACKER, Commander Middle East Force broke his flag in FOX.

20 March- Underway for Ruby Survey SPECOPS in the Gulf of Aden. FOX joined USS DAVIS (DD-937) and USS TRUETT (FF-1095), monitoring

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developments in Ethiopia and the movements of Soviet Indian Ocean Squadron units during a period of high tension. Ethiopian army units recaptured the Ogaden region from Somalia and an abortive coup d'etat in Somalia occurred during this period.

- 20 March- Sighted Soviet Buoy Tender KIL-33 and Submarine Rescue vessel SS-21 at anchor southwest of Aden, Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY).
- 23 March- Sighted KIL-33 and SS-21 at anchor southwest of Aden. Sighted Space Vehicle Recovery ship YAMAL transiting westbound in the Gulf of Aden. Later sighted MOD PETYA I class frigate FFL-845 in the Aden anchorage.
- 24 March- Sighted POLOCNY class landing ship LSM-444 and ALLIGATOR class tank landing ship LST-413 in the Gulf of Aden. During the afternoon hours FFL-845, PETYA II class frigate FFL-843 and ASR SS-21 were sighted at anchor near Arab Shoals, 60 miles north of the Somali coast.
- 25 March- Transited the Bab-el-Mandeb Straits to enter the Red Sea for surveillance operations.
- 27 March- Transited the Bab-el-Mandeb Straits to enter the Gulf of Aden for surveillance operations. Conducted rendezvous with USS DAVIS for material transfer.
- 28 March- Transited Bab-el-Mandeb Straits to enter Red Sea. Assumed surveillance of two unidentified contacts correlated to intercepts of Soviet radars. The contacts subsequently conducted a rendezvous with Buoy Tender KIL-33, before continuing to a southerly transit of the Bab-el-Mandeb.
- 29 March- At first light, the two contacts were identified as AMUR class Repair Ship PM-52 and SORUM class Ocean Tug ATF MB-18. Sub-

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sequently, FOX conducted rendezvous with USS JULIUS A. FURER (FFG-6), who had recently joined the Middle East Force, for helicopter parts transfer.

30 March-

Transited Bab-el-Mandeb Straits to enter the Red Sea. Sighted a PDRY S.O.1 class PT boat near Perim Island, PDRY, the first positive confirmation of the existence of this craft in the PDRY Navy.

31 March-

Following Red Sea surveillance operations, transited the Bab-el-Mandeb to enter the Gulf of Aden enroute Djibouti for fueling.

APRIL

1 April-

Inport Djibouti for fueling. During the port visit, the Honorable Hassan Gouled, President of the Republic of Djibouti was hosted on board, along with his cabinet. Underway late in the day for surveillance operations in the western Gulf of Aden.

3 April-

Sighted ROPUCHA class Tank Landing Ship LST-383, Refrigerated Stores Ship ULMA and Repair Ship AR-52 at anchor southwest of Aden, PDRY.

4 April-

Sighted MOD PETYA I frigate FFL-845 at anchor in Arab Shoals. Sighted Oiler AKHTUBA involved in the refueling of LST 383, AR-52 and AKL ULMA.

5 April-

Transited Bab-el-Mandeb Straits into Red Sea. Sighted KASHIN class Guided Missile Destroyer DDG-100. Late in the day conducted rendezvous with USS FURER, whereupon RADM PACKER hauled down his flag in FOX and embarked in FURER.

6 April-

Transited Bab-el-Mandeb Straits to enter Gulf of Aden, sighting oiler AKHTUBA enroute. Sighted three Soviet ships, Submarine Rescue Ship SS-21 and the Fleet Tugs MB-18 and MB-304, towing a Soviet floating drydock in

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the vicinity of Assab, Ethiopia. The drydock, initially based in Somalia, had been transferred to Aden prior to its turnover to Ethiopia. This sighting indicated a major shift in Soviet-Ethiopian relations and was noted in a Defense Intelligence Agency report.

7 April- Sighted KOTLIN class Destroyer DD-430, Repair Ship AR-52 and Soviet Merchant Tanker FRUNZE at anchor southwest of Aden.

8 April- Transited Bab-el-Mandeb Straits into the Red Sea.

9 April- Transited Bab-el-Mandeb Straits into the Gulf of Aden.

14 April- Conducted rendezvous with USS GLOVER (AGFF-1) for parts transfer.

15 April- Inport Djibouti for fueling. Underway late in the day for Colombo, Sri Lanka, concluding FOX participation in Ruby Survey surveillance operations.

16 April- Sighted DON class Submarine Tender AS-941 in the Gulf of Aden.

17 April- Conducted surveillance of the Soviet anchorage at Socotra Island. Sighted KOTLIN DD-430, KASHIN DDG-100, PETYA II FFL-843, NATYA class Minesweeper MSF-300, MOD PETYA I FFL-845 and Merchant Tanker SARANSK in the anchorage.

17 April- Independent transit to Colombo, Sri Lanka.
20 April

21 April- Inport Colombo, Sri Lanka for port
23 April visit.

24 April- Underway for Singapore.
27 April

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28 April-
1 May Moored in Sambewang Shipyard, Singapore for 4-day port visit and upkeep period.

MAY
2 May- Underway for Phattaya Beach, Thailand.

3 May- Sighted a small fishing boat adrift in the Gulf of Thailand, displaying distress signals. FOX technicians provided repairs to the boat's engine and radio while FOX interrupted the transit to linger in the vicinity. After its food and water supply was replenished, the boat, which had been without power for 8 days, proceeded toward the nearest port. FOX then resumed her transit to Phattaya Beach.

4 May- Anchored in Phattaya Beach, Thailand for a four day port visit.

8 May-
12 May Underway for Subic Bay, RP.

13 May-
2 June Inport Subic Bay, RP for mid-deployment upkeep period.

17 May- RADM E. B. FOWLER, Jr., USN, Commander Naval Electronics Systems Command conducted an official visit to FOX.

23 May- Captain Robert J. STEELE, USN relieved Captain James F. KELLY, Jr., USN, as Commanding Officer, USS FOX.

26 May- RADM R. B. McCLINTON, USN, Commander, Naval Surface Group Western Pacific conducted an official visit to USS FOX to participate in ceremonies celebrating FOX's 12th Birthday.

JUNE
3 June- Underway for Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

4 June- During routine flight operations FOX's embarked LAMPS helicopter made an emergency landing on a beach on northern Luzon,

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forced by a sudden, violent thunderstorm. No one was injured and the aircraft was not damaged. The aircraft was refueled at first light by an H-3 stationed at Clark AFB and returned to the ship without incident.

- 5 June- Inport Kaohsiung, Taiwan for port visit.
7 June
- 8 June- Underway for Yokosuka, Japan.
- 9 June- In company with USS STEIN (FF-1065) enroute
11 June Yokosuka, Japan.
- 12 June- Inport Yokosuka, Japan for Special Operations
14 June briefings and upkeep.
- 12 June- RADM F. H. MILLER, USN, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Force Seventh Fleet/Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group ONE broke his flag in FOX.
- 15 June- ~~(S)~~ Underway in company with USS STEIN and USS HASSAYAMPA for SPECOPS in the Sea of Okhotsk.
- 17 June- ~~(S)~~ Underway refueling with USS HASSAYAMPA. Alongside USS STEIN for personnel transfer.
- 18 June- ~~(S)~~ Transited Proliv Bussol Straits to enter the Sea of Okhotsk. After the Straits were cleared, two Soviet BADGER aircraft conducted reconnaissance of the Task Group. Later that evening, two BEAR D aircraft were observed maintaining surveillance of the Task Group.
- 19 June- ~~(S)~~ Four pairs of BADGER aircraft successfully conducted surveillance of the Task Group. KRIVAK II class Guided Missile Frigate FFG-690 "RAZUMNYI" assumed surveillance of the Task Group. Underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA.
- 20 June- ~~(S)~~ Two pairs of BADGER aircraft conducted surveillance of the Task Group. KRIVAK I class frigate FFG-602 "RESKIY" joined FFG-690 in surface surveillance of the Task Group.

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- 21 June- ~~(S)~~ Two BEAR aircraft maintained surveillance of the Task Group while Merchant Tanker USINSK entered the area for replenishment operations with FFG-690. FOX conducted replenishment operations with USS HASSAYAMPA.
- 22 June- ~~(S)~~ Four Soviet BADGER aircraft continued surveillance of the Task Group.
- 23 June- ~~(S)~~ Two BADGER aircraft were detected conducting possible practice anti-ship missile profiles against the Task Group. During the afternoon, FOX refueled from USS HASSAYAMPA. Later in the day, Oiler YEGORLYK was sighted in the vicinity of the Task Group and later refueled FFG-602. KRIVAK I class frigate FFG-644 assumed surveillance of the Task Group as FFG-602 departed to the southwest.
- 24 June- ~~(S)~~ Sighted two STENKA class patrol boats, subordinate to the KGB, who assumed brief surveillance of the Task Group as it passed within 14 nautical miles of the Soviet land mass enroute to the La Perouse Strait. Additionally, a NATYA class minesweeper conducted brief surveillance of the Task Group, supplementing FFG-690 and FFG-644. Late in the afternoon, KANIN class Guided Missile Destroyer DDG-556 "GORDYY" joined the two combatants in surveillance of the Task Group, who commenced a transit to the La Perouse Strait to exit the Sea of Okhotsk.
- 25 June- ~~(S)~~ Transited the La Perouse Strait to enter the Sea of Japan.
- 26 June- ~~(S)~~ Entered the Tsugaru Strait with FFG-690, FFG-644 and DDG-556 in trail. As the Soviet units prepared to conclude their surveillance operations, FOX assumed brief surveillance of FFG-690 before resuming transit to the east.
- 27 June- In company with USS STEIN, conducted transit enroute Yokosuka, Japan.

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28 June- Moored in U. S. Naval Facility, Yokosuka, Japan completing operation "Free Seas" designed to demonstrate U. S. policy toward the international waters of the Sea of Okhotsk.

29 June- Inport Yokosuka, Japan.

30 June

29 June- RADM MILLER hauled down his flag in FOX.

JULY

1 July- Underway in company with USS STEIN for return transit to San Diego via Pearl Harbor.

2 July- Enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Commanding
8 July Officer, USS FOX assigned as Transit Task Group Commander.

4 July- FOX chopped to the operational command of COMTHIRDFLT.

5 July- Crossed the International Date line.

9 July- Inport Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for refueling.

10 July- Underway in company with USS STEIN for San
15 July Diego, California.

13 July- Conducted Surface Encounter Exercise with USS LEAHY (CG-16).

16 July- HSL-35 Detachment 7 aircraft and crew debarked. FOX arrived in San Diego, California completing a six-month distant duty deployment. Commenced post-deployment leave and upkeep period.

AUGUST

1 August- Inport San Diego, California.

1 August- FOX hosted the visit of Japanese Defense
4 August Ship KATORI (TV-3501) to San Diego.

17 August- Concluded post deployment leave and upkeep period. Shifted berth to Naval Air Station North Island for removal of missile fire control radars and computers for overhaul.

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- 22 August- Annual Maintenance and Material Management
23 August (3-M) Inspection.
- 28 August- Shifted berth to Naval Station, San Diego.
- SEPTEMBER
- 1 September- Inport San Diego, California.
10 September
- 6 September- RADM A. M. SINCLAIR, Commander Cruiser-
7 September Destroyer Group FIVE conducted his annual
Command Inspection of FOX. In the absence
of the Admiral, the inspection team was
headed by CAPT (b) (6), Chief of Staff.
- 11 September- Underway for Seal Beach, California for weapons
offload. Moored at Naval Weapons Station,
Seal Beach late in the afternoon.
- 12 September- Weapons offload in preparation for regular
13 September overhaul.
- 13 September- Underway for Bremerton, Washington.
- 13 September- Conducted independent transit to Bremerton,
16 September Washington for one-year regular overhaul
(ROH) at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.
- 17 September- Transited the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Moored
in Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.
- 19 September- (C) Drydocked in Drydock Number 4 to commence
ROH. The overhaul work package included
major maintenance and upkeep of the
engineering plant and installation of
several new combat systems, including:
- (1) MOD 8 to the Missile Fire Control
System MK 76.
 - (2) HARPOON Surface-to-Surface missile
system, replacing the 3 inch/50 caliber
gun mounts.
 - (3) Classic Outboard CESM system.
 - (4) NAVMACS A PLUS computerized communi-
cations receiving and processing system.

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- (5) SUPER RAPID BLOOMING OFFBOARD CHAFF (SRBOC) .
- (6) Conversion of gunfire control radars from analog to digital.

Major engineering updates include:

- (1) Installation of collection holding tank system.
- (2) Upgrading of air conditioning systems by installation of 4 125-ton air conditioning units, replacing 5 53-ton units.
- (3) Modifications to chilled water systems.
- (4) Improvements to ventilation of main engineering spaces.
- (5) Upgrading of fire fighting capability on the helicopter deck by installation of Aqueous Film Foaming Foam (AFFF) flooding system.

OCTOBER

1 October-
31 October

Inport Bremerton, Washington.

6 October-

VADM W. R. ST GEORGE, Commander Naval Surface Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet conducted an official visit to FOX.

11 October-

U. S. Navy Birthday observed in ceremonies conducted on board.

19 October-

Commander Michael A. ROSE, USN relieved Commander Jimmy D. HENDERSON, USN as Executive Officer, USS FOX.

NOVEMBER

1 November-
30 November

Inport Bremerton, Washington for ROH.

DECEMBER

1 December-
30 December

Inport Bremerton, Washington for ROH.

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